

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re Application of:	Rudolph S. Fortuna	)	<b>PATENT APPLICATION</b>
Serial No.:	10/685,608	)	
Filed:	October 15, 2003	)	Group Art Unit: 3617
For:	RAILROAD HOPPER CAR	)	Examiner: Unknown
	DISCHARGE GATE ASSEMBLY	)	Confirmation No.: 5108

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the information identified on the attached INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT, a copy of which information is enclosed, may be helpful to the Patent and Trademark Office during examination of the above-identified patent application.

The listing of the information on the attached INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent information could not possibly be in existence. The order of listing of the information on the attached INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the listed information. The subject matter of the information listed on the INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT is apparent from the disclosure in the cited information. Copies of all the information listed is attached.

The cited information discloses numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by and in the cited information. The Examiner, however, is respectfully requested to review the cited information and determine the materiality of the disclosure within the reference relative to the patentability of the subject invention.

The citation of the information herein is not to be construed as an admission that the

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R. S. Fortuna

Serial No.: 10/685,608

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disclosure contained in such information is necessarily within the field of endeavor of the subject invention, that the disclosure in such cited information is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any particular disclosure contained in the information is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by United States patent laws with respect to the instant invention and application.

Respectfully submitted;



John W. Harbst

Attorney of Record

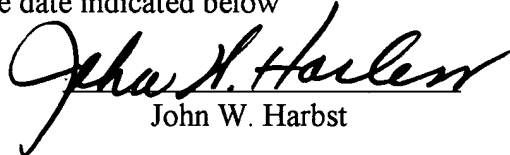
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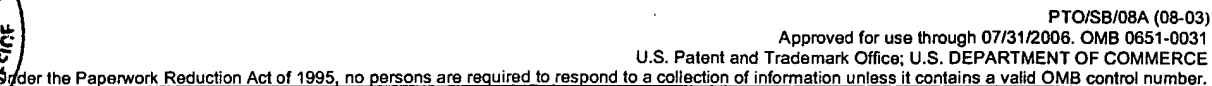
I hereby certify that the attached Information Disclosure Statement and information cited therein are being enclosed in an envelope being deposited with the United States Postal service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date indicated below

Date:

March 23, 2004



John W. Harbst



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Sheet	1	of	2
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Application Number	10/685,608
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	FORTUNA, Rudolph S
Art Unit	3617
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	45054.00.053

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US- 2,142,236	01/1939	A. Campbell	
	AB	US- 2,644,408	07/1953	G. B. Dorey	
	AC	US- 2,749,770	06/1956	G. B. Dorey	
	AD	US- 3,110,270	11/1963	O. Ingram	
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[illegible]Date  
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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of 2

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Application Number	10/685,608
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Art Unit	3617
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	45054.00.053

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	BA	US- 4,342,267	08/1982	B. O. Blout	
	BB	US- 5,046,432	09/1991	B. J. Bowler	
	BC	US- 5,272,987	12/1993	A. L. Lucas	
	BD	US- 5,448,955	09/1995	R. H. Dugge, et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
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Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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